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P E Docket No.: 43890-485

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of : Customer Number: 20277

Hiroshi HAJI, et al. : Confirmation Number: 2296

Serial No.: 09/781,563 : Group Art Unit: 2823

Filed: February 13, 2001 : Examiner: George R. Fourson III

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

## REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mail Stop Non-Fee Response Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 3, 2003, having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 3, 2004, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

## REMARKS

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-9 and 12-14 is acknowledged and appreciated. For the following reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Claims 10, 11 and 15-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants' representative initiated a telephone interview with Examiner Fourson in order to expedite prosecution. Applicants and Applicants' representative would like to thank Examiner